

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING ELECTRONIC DEVICES**978P  
12/205**Cross Reference to Related Application**

This is a continuation of copending application number 09/918,211 filed on July 30, 2001.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention generally relates to data processing techniques and, in particular, to a system and method for sensing physiological conditions and for automatically controlling electronic devices based on the sensed physiological 10 conditions.

**RELATED ART**

Various electronic devices enable users to provide voluntary inputs for controlling many of the features of the electronic devices. For example, a camera 15 normally includes a button or other type of switch that, when activated by a user, causes the camera to take a picture or to begin recording a scene. Thus, when the user sees a scene that he or she would like to capture with the camera, the user ensures that the camera is pointed at the scene of interest and then activates the foregoing button. In response, the camera takes a picture of or records the scene exposed to the lens of 20 the camera.

Unfortunately, a finite amount of time exists for a user to provide a voluntary input to an electronic device. For example, a user may see a scene that the user would like to capture with a camera. However, by the time the user activates the input button to take a picture of the scene or to begin recording the scene, the scene may 25 change. As a result, the user may fail to capture the desired image with the camera.